BY J. L. PENNINGTON & CO.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

The following are the only terms of subscription to the DAILY and WEEKLY PROGRESS:

Daily paper, 1 month.....$10 00
" 3 months.....30 00
" 6 months.....40 00
Weekly paper, 3 months.....10 00
" 6 months.....20 00

Always to be paid in advance, and paper stopped when the time paid for expires.

JOB PRINTING.—Having a Job Office equal to any in the City or State, we are prepared to execute all orders for Book and Job Printing with neatness and dispatch.

THE DAILY PROGRESS.

VOL. VI. RALEIGH, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 1, 1865 NO. 70

ADVERTISING RATES.

The following rates will be charged for all advertisements inserted in the *Daily* and *Weekly Progress*:

ONE SQUARE OF EIGHT LINES, OR LESS.

One day	$5 00	One week	$30 00
Two days	10 00	Two weeks	60 00
Three days	15 00	Three weeks	90 00
Four days	20 00	One month	120 00
Five days	75 00	Two months	240 00

Fifty words, or eight lines or less, count a square, and additional squares will be charged the same. Advertisements inserted once, twice or three times a week will be charged $4 a square for every insertion.

When sent by letter, the money must accompany the advertisement. Marriages, Deaths, Religious and other Notices charged as advertisements, and must be paid in advance.

SPEECH OF MR. HANER,

OF DAVIDSON,

Delivered in the House of Commons of North-Carolina, January 20th, 1865, on the following resolutions introduced by him.

Resolutions on the subject of a General Convention of the Confederate States:

WHEREAS, The present system of legislation by the Congress of the Confederate States, by which the most oppressive and unconstitutional laws have been passed from time to time, by the votes of irresponsible representatives from Missouri, Kentucky and other States, some of whom have never seceded from the Government of the United States, but have at this time their full quota of men in the armies of our enemies, and who therefore have no constituents upon whom the laws passed by them can operate, and some of whom dare not even show themselves in the States which they profess to represent, is an outrage to which no free people ought to submit:

And, Whereas, Article V of the Constitution of the Confederate States provides, that "Upon the demand of any three States, legally assembled in their several Conventions, the Congress shall summon a Convention of all the Confederate States, to take into consideration such amendments to the Constitution as the said States shall concur in suggesting at the time when the said demand is made; and should any of the proposed amendments to the Constitution be agreed on by the said Convention—voting by States—and the same be ratified by the Legislatures of two-thirds of the several States or by Conventions in two-thirds thereof—as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the general Convention—they shall thenceforward form a part of the Constitution. But no State shall, without its consent be deprived of its "equal representation" in the Senate.

Therefore, Resolved, That the Joint Select Committee on Confederate relations be instructed to frame and bring in a bill calling a Convention of the people of this State, or submitting the question to them so as to enable them to assemble in Convention—if a majority of them should desire to do so, for the purpose of co-operating with any two other States in calling a Convention of all the Confederate States, for the purpose of amending the Constitution, so as to provide that hereafter the representatives of any State or States, whose territory is in the hands of the enemy so that the Confederate laws cannot be enforced therein, shall not, during the continuance of such occupation by the enemy, be permitted to vote upon any question of legislation, but shall have only such rights as are allowed to the delegates from the Territories of the Confederate States; and of considering such other amendments as the said three States shall concur in suggesting.

Resolved, further, That State sovereignty being the principle on which North Carolina and the other States withdrew from the Federal Union, the States composing the Southern Confederacy are sovereigns, and the Confederate Government is only their agent, and subject to their control, and that the States in their sovereign capacity, in General Convention assembled, have the right to negotiate a peace with the government of the United States, without consultation with the President of the Confederate States, but subject only to the subsequent ratification of the several States in their separate State Conventions.

The above resolutions having been read, Mr. HANER said:—

MR. SPEAKER:—In submitting these resolutions for the consideration of the House, I desire to avail myself of the privilege of discussing them and their kindred topics, with that boldness and freedom which should ever characterise the debates of the representatives of a free people, when assembled for the purpose of legislating for them in trying and perilous times.

On a memorable occasion during the period of the rebellion of her American colonies, the great Earl of Chatham said in the British House of Lords, that "he rejoiced that the Americans had resisted; that three millions of Englishmen thus submitting to be made slaves would be fit instruments for enslaving the remainder." On another memorable occasion a few years later, another eminent British statesman, who never received justice at the hands of contempora ies, but whose memory will be hallowed by the admiration of posterity—Mr. Fox—spoke in the British House of Commons on the subject of an answer to the King's speech, using this remarkable language: "I shall treat the speech of the King as the speech of the Minister, and I undertake to say that there is not a single fact set forth in his Majesty's speech which is not a falsehood."

If such liberty of speech was allowed in the British Parliament three quarters of a century ago, how much greater liberty may I venture to take in this, the high noon of the nineteenth century, as the representative of American freemen; especially when I remember that the freedom of debate and the freedom of the press is guaranteed to me by two written Constitutions, that of the State, and of the Confederate States.

I shall, therefore, proceed to discuss boldly, and express my opinion fearlessly upon every great question of public policy which may have been rendered necessary by the dreadful war which for the last four years has been sweeping over this devoted land like a tornado, contaminating or destroying everything which came within its vortex, and which has spread a pall over the whole land—has brought mourning into every family—has rendered hundreds of thousands of hearth-stones desolate—has filled the land with the maimed and the disabled, with widows and orphans, and with squalid poverty.

These resolutions, Mr. Speaker, propose the call of a State Convention for the purpose of co-operating with the Conventions of other States in calling a Convention of the Confederate States, for the purpose of making a certain specified amendment to the Confederate Constitution in pursuance of the provisions of Article V of said Constitution cited in the preamble. No argument, therefore, is necessary to prove that the powers of such Convention extend, to the making the proposed amendment subject to the subsequent ratification of the several States. The only argument necessary to be made here is to prove the necessity of such amendments.

Much unjust, oppressive and unconstitutional legislation has been done within the last three years by the Confederate Congress. Nearly all the sacred rights of the States have been trampled in the dust. Conscript law after conscript law has been passed until the entire militia system of the States has been swept away. Exemption bill after exemption bill has been modified or repealed, until the whole male white population between the ages of seventeen and fifty years, with the exception of the State officers, editors, printers and ministers of the Gospel, are subject to the control of the military authorities. And now it is gravely proposed to repeal *all* exemption laws, and allow no judges to hold our courts, no man to legislate for the States, publish a newspaper or preach the Holy Gospel in pursuance of his commission from Almighty God, without a special detail from the President for that purpose, unless such person should be over fifty years of age. More than once has the privilege of the great writ of *habeas corpus* been suspended to an extent never contemplated by the Constitution. It has not only been suspended as to all arrests made for criminal offenses, but it has been suspended so as to deny to our citizens inquiry through that writ into the existence of the dearest civil rights. And even now, we are threatened with another suspension of the same unconstitutional and obnoxious character. All of these acts have been done heretofore, and can only be done hereafter, by the votes of certain pretended representatives from the States of Missouri and Kentucky—States which have never seceded from the United States government, and which are now furnishing their quota of men for Mr. Lincoln's army. These laws, I say, Mr. Speaker, have been passed, or will be passed if passed at all, by the votes of certain pretended representatives in whose States they can no more be executed than in New York or New England, and who dare not even show themselves in the States which they profess to represent, but who were elected by a small squad of refugees in Augusta or Mobile. What interest can such a set of men feel in *our* welfare, having no constituents of their own? They are, for the most part, a set of desperate political adventurers, who have nothing to lose by any legislation however grinding it may be upon us, or however desperate may be its character. Are we willing longer to submit to be thus oppressed by the votes of a set of irresponsible representatives, without at least exerting ourselves to the utmost of our constitutional means to obtain redress? If we are, then we are already subjugated, and fit to become the subjects of a despotism. For this purpose, then, I desire that the Convention should be called, and for this reason I hope the resolutions will be adopted; for if this government is to endure for any length of time, then it is of the very highest importance that the amendment specified in the first resolution should be made.

But, high and important as the power of amending the Confederate Constitution is, I desire to show that such Convention would be vested with much higher power still. I propose to show that such a Convention, in connection with the State Conventions, would possess unlimited sovereign powers, and would therefore be vested with the right to negotiate a peace with the United States government—such a peace as the States, or the people of the States might be willing to accept, be that what it may.

But to show this, it is necessary to go to some extent into a discussion of the theory of the government. What the true theory of the Constitution of the United States is, has been a subject of animated discussion from the period of its adoption in the year 1789, down to the present time, and to determine which, more than anything else, this terrible war is now being waged. Three separate and distinct theories have been contended for by three great parties, each numbering among its members in any eminent statesmen. I shall designate each of these theories by the name of the great statesmen who were regarded severally as the founders of their political school.

First, then, there was the Hamiltonian theory, which was much the highest toned of any. According to this theory it is a Constitution of national government, founded upon the sovereignty of the PEOPLE. It is the opinion of the statesmen of this school that "all power is vested in and derived from the people only"—that the people are the creators of both the Federal and State governments—that they delegated all powers pertaining to the rights of national sovereignty to the general government, to be exercised by that government for the PEOPLE of the United States AS THEIR agent, and that to that extent, and for those purposes, it consolidates all the States into one; while it reserved to the States all the powers pertaining to the rights of local and municipal sovereignty, and that to that extent and for those purposes only are they States. According to this theory, the government of the United States is a Federal Republic established by the people, which is defined by Montesquieu, to be, "a Convention, by which several States agree to become members of a LARGER ONE * * * an assemblage of societies that constitute a NEW ONE, capable of increasing by means of further associations." (MONTESQUIEU, b 9, c, I.) This theory may be studied in the writings of Hamilton, Jay, Ellsworth, Marshall, Kent, Story, Cotesworth Pickney, Webster, and many other eminent statesmen.

Diametrically opposed to this is the Jeffersonian theory. According to this theory each State is a complete sovereignty within itself—the Constitution is a mere league or treaty of alliance between the States, which are thus *confederated* together for certain specified limited purposes. The federal government is the mere agency of the States for the management and control of their foreign affairs, to which each State gave its assent separately, reserving its independence, and that therefore, "each State has the right to judge for *itself* of any infraction of the Constitution, and of the time, mode, manner and measure of redress;"—and that consequently, a State has the right to nullify a law of Congress when in *its* opinion such law is unconstitutional, notwithstanding the other States may differ with it on that point. It is from this theory that the *right of secession* is deduced. This theory may be studied in the famous Kentucky resolutions of 1799, and in the writings of Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Calhoun.

Between these two extremes there was a middle ground in what is known as the "Madisonian theory." According to this theory it is a Constitution of government based upon the sovereignty of the States, forming a federal Republic by the action of the States, instead of the action of the people of the States jointly. The statesmen of this school regard the government as the agent and creature of the States, which the "*States*"—not a State—have the right to direct and control, provided they, or three-fourths of them can agree as to the manner and the purposes for which it is to be controled. This theory may be studied in the famous Virginia resolutions of 1798 and '9, and Mr. Madison's celebrated report thereon; also in the writings of Monroe, Mr. Wirt, Mr. Van Buren, Silas Wright, Gen. Jackson, and many other statesmen of that school.

It is not my intention to discuss at this time the question, "which of these theories is correct as applied to the Constitution of the United States?"—Such a discussion would be foreign to my purpose on this occasion; and besides, I imagine that my opinions are already well known on that question.

The Jeffersonian theory is the one which prevailed at the South, and in my humble opinion was a fruitful source of all our woes. To establish the correctness of this theory far more than for anything else, in my opinion, the Southern States withdrew from the federal Union, and laid the foundation of the Confederate Constitution upon the *right of secession* as a corner stone. This I imagine no member of this House will have the hardihood to deny. I might, therefore, assume with the utmost truth and propriety that the Jeffersonian theory was the true theory of the Confederate Constitution, and found upon that assumption an impregnable argument to prove that the States in general Convention assembled, would possess the power of negotiating a peace—such a peace as would be satisfactory to them or their people—with the government of the United States, subject to the subsequent approval of the States or their people. But it is not necessary that I should contend for the Jeffersonian theory in order to sustain my position. On this occasion I can afford to be liberal to those who differ with me in opinion, and yet retain sufficient ground upon which to erect my own argument.

I shall, therefore, assume, Mr. Speaker, that the Madisonian theory is the one upon which the Confederate government is founded—that it is a government based upon the sovereignty of the States, and therefore subject to their control; and I take it for granted that no man in the Confederacy will for one moment contend that it derives its origin from any higher source than the sovereignty of the States. Surely no statesman of the South will ever contend under the Confederate Constitution for the high-toned theories of the old federal school.

I take it for granted that it will not be denied by any man outside of the lunatic asylum, that the creature is always subject to the control of its creator. This is a self-evident proposition. To deny this, would be to deny the great Jehovah the right to control and govern the world which He has called into existence.

It is admitted, then, that the Confederate government is based upon the sovereignty of the States.—In general Convention assembled they created it; and afterwards each State separately ratified and confirmed the act. It is their common agent. They are its creators. Their powers over it are *sovereign*. In general Convention assembled they may at any time require it to enter into negotiations for peace upon such terms as they may think proper, and if it will not obey their commands, or if the United States government will not negotiate with it, then they have a right to take their affairs into their own hands, and to open negotiations themselves with the government of the United States. Such a course may become imperative, for the reason that the government of the United States may never agree to recognize the existence of the Confederate government, even for the purpose of negotiating *any kind* of a peace with it. In that event the States would have the right to revoke the powers granted to their common agent and terminate its existence. This is a right inherent in the very nature of our government. It is a right above and beyond the Constitution. To deny this right is to say these States are not sovereign in the very face of the Constitution itself, which declares that in forming it "*each State acted in its sovereign and independent capacity.*" To deny this right is to say that the stream may rise higher than its source—that the creature is greater than its creators. To say that a Convention of sovereign States may create for themselves a common government, and are competent to change that government at will, or to dissolve it, and are not competent to negotiate with another government, is, in my humble opinion, an absurdity.

But, perhaps, I can illustrate my position by reference to an analogous case still fresh in the memory of this House. Our State government is based upon the sovereignty of the people. In 1861 it became necessary to call a Convention of the people of the State; and although all legislative power is expressly vested by the State Constitution in the two Houses of the General Assembly, yet the Convention continued to legislate during the whole period of its existence, and its right to do so could not be questioned. Not only did it legislate, but at one time it actually prorouged the Legislature itself, extending the time of its meeting to a day far beyond that which it had fixed for itself. At another time it even talked seriously of dissolving the existing Legislature and calling another, thus claiming the right to dissolve the existing State government and create a new one. Its right to do all this was never questioned—in fact could not be questioned. Where did the Convention get the power to do all of these things—from the Constitution? No; it was an extra constitutional power. It was a power inherent in the sovereignty of the people then and there assembled in Convention. The Confederate government being based upon the sovereignty of the States, the States in general Convention assembled have all, and more than all, the power over that government which the people in Convention have over the State government, as the people are limited to some extent by the Confederate Constitution. I might sustain my position by numerous citations from the Fathers, but I will not do it, lest I should render myself obnoxious to the charge of having made an elaborate argument to sustain a simple, if not a self-evident proposition.

Having thus shown the right of the sovereign States to control, direct or dissolve their common agency, the Confederate government, and to negotiate for themselves a peace with the government of the United States, as I conceive as clearly as any one can show the right of the great omnipotent God of the Universe to direct, control or dissolve his creation, I now come to the most painful part of my task, that of showing from the condition of the country, the absolute necessity of their exercising their sovereign powers in order to avert impending and utter ruin.

In doing this, I hope I may be permitted to contrast the present condition of the country with what it was but five short years ago. Then we were a united, contented and happy people—all our prospects were bright and promising beyond the power of human calculation. We were in the enjoyment of a larger proportion of civil and religious liberty than any other people upon whom the sun of Heaven had ever shone. All the material interests of the country were advancing with such rapidity that their movements were almost visible to the human eye. We were rapidly becoming the first manufacturing, commercial and maritime power in the world. In a few years more at most, if we had remained together, we would have surpassed in power and splendor all the nations of ancient or modern times.

In the midst of all these high, exciting, gratifying prospects which seemed to be spread out before us in endless profusion, for the enjoyment of ourselves and our posterity, our hopes were suddenly blasted by the "grim visaged monster" secession. A large number of eminent men in the South had imbibed the plausible but false theory of Mr. Jefferson, and had deduced therefrom, as they believed, the pernicious doctrine of secession. This party had been gradually accumulating strength almost from the foundation of the government, until the year 1832, when it made an open effort in the State of South-Carolina to resist the laws of the United States, its ultimate object being a disruption of the government. The pretext sought on that occasion to justify their act was the tariff law of 1828, although the State of South-Carolina herself had been from the foundation of the government nearly up to that period, as ardent an advocate of a high tariff as any State in New England. That question was compromised—South-Carolina obtained all that she ostensibly demanded. A revenue tariff with incidental protection became the settled policy of the government, and except for a short period under the tariff of 1842, was never departed from. But this compromise gave no real satisfaction to the leaders of that movement. But a few days after the passage of the compromise bill of Mr. Clay, the newspaper organ of the secessionists at Washington declared "that *the South could never be united on the tariff question*, and that the slavery question was the *only* one that could unite them." About the same time, Mr. Calhoun said the same thing in a speech at Abbeville, South-Carolina, and this declaration was echoed by his partizans every where throughout the South. Immediately after this commenced that violent agitation of the slavery question, which had nearly culminated upon the admission of California in 1850. By the efforts of the great statesmen of the last age, the matter was then compromised. The whole country seemed to be satisfied with the settlement, but there was a number of restless spirits among the secessionists of the South, who would be satisfied with nothing less than the dissolution of the Union. They immediately commenced agitating the question again with the view of furnishing themselves with a pretext for exercising the sacred right of secession, which they professed to have deduced from the system of Mr. Jefferson. They began by demanding a recognition of the doctrine of "non-intervention" by Congress in relation to the subject of slavery in the territories. This they finally obtained at the Cincinnatti Convention, in 1856.

No sooner had they obtained this, than they went to the opposite extreme, and demanded, as an *ultimatum*, the "*intervention*" of Congress for the protection of slavery in the territories; and upon this *ultimatum*, succeeded in breaking up the Charleston Convention. Several years previous to this, however, they had succeeded with aid of a few Northern allies in repealing the Missouri Compromise. This act, together with a subsequent attempt to force the Lecompton Constitution upon the people of Kansas in opposition to the known and expressed wish of three-fourths of them, had built up a great party at the North in opposition to the extension of slavery. By breaking up the Charleston Convention, and dividing the Democratic party, the secessionists purposely aided, with malice aforethought, to elect Mr. Lincoln, the candidate of this party, to the Presidency of the United States in 1860; an event over which there was as much rejoicing in South-Carolina as there was in Massachusetts. In the mean time there had been much unjustifiable legislation on the part of a few of the Northern States, which I am as ready to condemn as any other man, but there had been no act of the national government in the slightest degree infringing our rights. The decisions of the Supreme Court had all been in our favor. The slavery question had been settled in the territories, by the acts of Congress establishing governments for the territories of Colorado, Nevada and Dacotah. We also had a majority in both Houses of Congress, consisting of the Southern members, the Northern Democrats and the Fillmore Whigs, and it seemed that our interests were perfectly secure. They had all the protection under the Constitution of the United States, that any Constitution could give them, and that Constitution could not be changed except by the consent of three-fourths of the States, and then there was not the remotest probability that that number of States would ever assent to any change affecting the peculiar institution of the South. Yet these men professed to believe that the institution of slavery was in danger, and that it could only be rendered secure by the *peaceable* secession of the slave States from the Union. The deed was done, and the result is before us. In the Union the institution of slavery would have survived all the attacks of its enemies, the abolitionists, but it will *never* recover from the blow which it has received at the hands of its professed friends, the secessionists. As a result of secession we have been for nearly four years engaged in the most gigantic war of modern times—a life and death struggle for existence, and it seems to be impossible for us to maintain the struggle much longer. A universal conscription, such as was never before witnessed in any country, has exhausted our fighting population. State after State has been wrested from us, until we are reduced to very narrow limits. Our army in the West has suffered defeat after defeat, until it has almost been annihilated, and as a consequence Sherman has been enabled to march almost unopposed through the whole length of the State of Georgia, capturing her most important city and seaport.—By obtaining possession of the Savannah river he has reduced us to the necessity of subsisting General Lee's army, which is, in fact, the only army we have left, from a part of Virginia, North and South-Carolina; and in those States it is well known that there is but little to spare from the wants of the women and children at home. He will soon commence a forward movement northward through South-Carolina and North-Carolina to co-operate with Gen. Grant in the reduction of Richmond and the capture of Lee's army. Great as this undertaking may seem, it is not half so great as was that of his march from Dalton to Savannah. That he accomplished in opposition to a powerful army, commanded, for some time, by one of the ablest Generals on the continent. Now, it must be remembered, that we have no considerable army to oppose him, and no material out of which to create one. How, then, are we to prevent the success of this expedition?

It must be remembered, too, that Mr. Lincoln has just called for 300,000 more men. The people of the United States are just now rejoicing greatly over the brilliant successes which have crowned Sherman's campaign, and Thomas's late operations against Gen. Hood. They are in the highest possible spirits in consequence of their present brilliant prospects. Mr. Lincoln will, therefore, speedily obtain all the men he calls for. They will go the field with the greatest alacrity, and being inspired with the hope of speedy success, they will soon become excellent soldiers. How, then, I ask again Mr. Speaker, are we to prevent the success of our enemies? Can we succeed in recovering back the States—a majority of the States of the Confederacy—which have been taken from us by the armies of the United States? Can we hold our remaining territory? Can we even prevent the fall of Richmond, and with it, the capture or destruction of our only remaining army of any considerable proportions under Gen. Lee, with our present army recruited to the full extent of our white population? Sir this question has already been answered by the government itself in the *negative*. Its leading organs, the Richmond *Sentinel* and the Richmond *Enquirer*, have already declared that the contest is too unequal to be longer maintained unless we *arm our slaves*, and are urging forward the measure with great energy.—Gen. Lee, too, it is said has arrived at the same conclusion, and is also urging forward the measure. The question then arises, whether we could really add to our strength by arming our negroes? I do not believe that we could, but on the other hand, I believe that this is one of the cases in which the proposed remedy is worse than the disease.

Surely those public men and Generals who propose this measure, have never calculated for an instant the awful consequences likely to flow from it. Let us pause to consider the matter for one moment. Our white male population is all in the field, either under the laws of the State or of the Confederacy. The probability is that we have in many localities, ten male slaves at home to one white man. Excite them to frenzy by passing a law to conscript them, and we would most probably have an immediate insurrection of them. If such an insurrection should take place, and should be general, can any man living inform us how it could be put down without withdrawing our armies, and leaving the field to our enemies? And who can imagine the horrors likely to result from such an insurrection, even if its duration should be brief?

But suppose that no such insurrection should take place, but that they would submit to be collected together in camps of instruction, and formed into regiments and brigades and receive arms, the danger would be increased a thousand fold. Just imagine 200,000 negroes well armed, with all their malignant passions aroused, and the women and children left defenceless. In that event we should in all probability have re enacted among us all the the inexpressible horrors of the massacre of Saint Domingo, where, in the graphic language of Burke, "every demon of destruction seemed to be let loose, and Hell itself appeared to yawn." But suppose Sir, that this should *perchance* not occur, they would most likely go over to the enemy in a body whenever a favorable opportunity should present itself to them; as the government of the United States would hold out greater inducements to them of liberty for themselves and *their families* than we do. And the events of this war—the vast numbers of them that have gone over to the enemy voluntarily, and in many instances joined their army of their own free choice, prove beyond all question that they would place far more reliance in their promises than they would in ours. In fact they all understand that this war is being waged on their account, as well as we do; and they regard the Yankees as the *only party* in this struggle who desire their freedom. After having held them in slavery all their lives, we can never convince them that *we* intend to liberate them as a reward for any services they might render us in the field. But it may be said that they would not be formed into regiments and brigades, but they would be sent to fill up our depleted regiments. If so, does any body suppose that our brave and highminded soldiers, who have been a thousand times assured that they were fighting against an attempt on the part of the Yankees to place them on the same level with the negro; would thus submit to be placed on the same level by the action of the Confederate government? I much mistake them if they will. The consequence then would be that our army would become thoroughly demoralized. A deadly conflict between our white and black soldiers, might at any time be expected. But even if none of the consequences which I have mentioned should be realized, there can be *no doubt* that thousands of them, headed by some desperate white charater, such as will always be found in armies as large as ours, especially when such armies are raised by compulsory conscription as ours are, will desert, and every where infest society as armed banditti. Then neither life nor property, nor female honor would be safe. Such scenes as we may anticipate in that event beggars all description, and would most probably end in the extermination of the negro race, and the utter destruction of the institution of slavery.

These reasons, it seems to me, Mr. Speaker, should be sufficient to cause our statesmen to recoil from the proposition with horror; but there are others that would be conclusive. Our armies as well as our women and children at home must be clothed and fed. If this is not done, then the war must end through famine. All great writers on political economy agree, that no nation can place permanently in the field more than one third of its fighting population without being subjugated sooner or later. We have already all of our white population in the service, and now it is gravely proposed to take at least one half of our slaves. And most of these slaves must be taken from four or five States, as the government has not the control of a larger number, and the consequence would be, that in those States starvation would rapidly make its appearance. I therefore conclude, Mr. Speaker, that if our cause is hopeless without the use of negroes as soldiers—and the government, through its newspaper organs, and its greatest General admits that it is—that we will make it a hundred times more hopeless by arming our slaves.

But this is not the only proposition which the government organs are making. They have put the Confederacy up to the highest bidder. They are trying to sell out to England and France. They even propose to abolish immediately and forever the whole institution of slavery, if by so doing they can induce England and France to take us under their protection. They have become perfectly desperate. They are willing to abandon every interest, and every principle for which they commenced this bloody revolution, in order to procure a sepa-

nation from the United States. They have stood by unmoved, and seen the dearest rights of the South trampled in the dust, and now they propose to abandon the institution of slavery if by so doing they can procure foreign aid. If these papers are the exponents of the views of President Davis, then he is the most gigantic and wholesale abolitionist the world ever saw.

But they will humiliate themselves in vain. England and France will never render us any assistance. They have no sympathy with us, and by thus abasing ourselves before them we only excite their derision. With all these facts before their eyes, the question arises, "What shall the States do?" My answer is, let them make peace *immediately*, or as soon as they can be assembled in Convention, *and then demand their rights under the Constitution of our Fathers.*

If I am asked what kind of a peace, I answer in the language of Mr. Boyce, "any peace consistent with the preservation of Constitutional liberty,"—any peace that the people or the States are willing to accept. With Mr. Boyce, I see no hope of making such a peace except by compromise and reconciliation with the North. If this Continent is to be divided into two hostile nations, each will keep up a standing army and sooner or later will become military despotisms. We should have an interminable warfare along our borders. This view of the case is sustained by all history. All the nations founded upon the downfall of the old Roman Empire were very limited—in fact very free. England was, perhaps, the least free of any of them. They all maintained their free Constitutions until the system of standing armies was established on the Continent. Then, one after another, they became absolute, and liberty ceased to exist on the Continent of Europe forever, except among the mountains of Switzerland. England, saved by her insular situation from the necessity of keeping a standing army, not only retained her ancient liberties, but extended them. Her monarchy has become more and more limited, until since the revolution of 1688 the Democratic branch of her government, the House of Commons, has become supreme in the State. If the Continent of America should be divided into two or more hostile and independent powers, what guarantee have we that the same condition of things will not obtain, that have obtained on the Continent of Europe? None whatever! Indeed as Mr. Boyce says, "the events of the last three years prove conclusively that such will be the case." But I will not continue the argument any further on this point. It has already been exhausted by Mr. Boyce. I most cordially endorse every part of his letter, and here in my place, as a member of this House, I return him my thanks for having written it. But even if there was no danger to liberty from the act of separation, it would be well enough to inquire if it were practicable. Now that much of the ill feeling between the two sections has expended itself in war, would it not be well enough for us to investigate this question? When we take a view of the country which once composed the United States, it is difficult to resist the conviction that nature intended it to contain but one great nation, or at least that it could never be divided in the way in which it is now being attempted. Nature certainly never intended that the mighty Mississippi and its tributaries should water or drain but one nation. Close the Mississippi to the Northwestern States by transferring its mouth to another nation, and they become the most completely landlocked country of any considerable dimensions in the world.

It is not to be supposed for a moment that the people of that section would ever consent, under any circumstances, to any such transfer. In the very act of giving such consent they would be signing their own death warrant. It is useless for us to promise them the free navigation of that river.—They would reply: "You can give us no stronger guarantee than a mere treaty stipulation, and like all treaties it will be liable to be violated or abrogated whenever the party making it shall of its own mere volition choose to do so. And though we may have no particular reason to doubt your good faith, yet nothing can ever induce us to place ourselves in your power And besides, we have not forgotten how many wars have been produced in Europe by the violation of just such treaties, especially of those relating to the navigation of the Scheldt."

If my premises are correct, Mr. Speaker, this country can never be divided so as to separate the Northwestern States from the Gulf States without reversing an inexorable law of nature. The only hope that I have ever seen of success in this struggle, was that the Northwestern States might be induced to join our Confederacy. The manner in which those States voted in the late Presidential election has dispelled that hope forever, and in my humble judgment has sealed the fate of this Confederacy. Why, then should this struggle be continued? Why not make peace at once upon the basis of reconciliation? I am met here by a declaration on the part of some that they would prefer annihilation to reconciliation with the government of the United States. I reply to this class of men by saying that if they were sincere, they would at once go to the "front," where they would stand at least some chance of meeting with the annihilation which they profess to desire. Yet, Mr. Speaker, it is an observable fact that few or none of them ever go there.

There is another class of men who say that they would have no objection to a reconciliation if it were possible. They say that there has been so much strife and bloodshed between the two sections that reconciliation is impossible. In this, however, they are in my opinion greatly mistaken. All history refutes this idea. There was the case of England and Scotland, which was in some respects similar to ours. Nature never intended that the Island of Great Britain should comprise more than one nation. Yet for many centuries it was divided into the two Kingdoms of England and Scotland. The history of these two countries during the period of their separation is a history of constant wars between them. Even during the short periods in which peace was said to exist between them by virtue of evanescent treaties, there was a constant warfare along the borders, carried on between the Northern Barons of England, and the roving desperadoes of Scotland, sometimes known as the "Moss troopers of the Border." Then, there was the strongest possible animosity between the two nations. They regarded each other as natural enemies. Scotland was the constant ally of France, who was the natural enemy of England. At length they fell to the inheritance of the same monarch, and this led to a union between the two countries. The chief argument urged at the time of the negotiations was that the union would lay the foundation of a lasting peace; and such in fact was the result. *The reconciliation was complete.* No war has since occurred growing out of animosities between the two peoples. Scotland at once started upon a new career of prosperity and glory. She rose above the standard of her former self Her people, from being one of the most turbulent, have become one of the most quiet and refined, as well as one of the most contented and happy in the world. There too, Mr. Speaker, was the great civil strife in England between the two great parties known as the "Cavaliers" and the "Roundheads." It continued for a number of years until having fought out their difficulties, a reconciliation took place.—Charles the II was restored by a union of the two parties. James the II was afterwards expelled, and William and Mary called to the throne by a union of the two parties. I might mention other cases which occur in history, but it is unnecessary. Reconciliation is much easier in our case than it was in theirs. Here, there is no feeling between the parties growing out of religious differences. We have the same common origin, speak the same language, profess the Protestant religion, have the same laws, the same literature, and with a single exception the same institutions. What then, is there to render reconciliation impossible in our case? Nothing that I can see. In fact I see much to render the task easy, if it should ever be undertaken by the States, who are the only parties that can effect any thing. I am perfectly satisfied that a large majority of the Southern people are anxious for it. Peace once established on this basis will be permanent; it can in my opinion be permanent on no other. Why, then, longer delay? I have shown, that if this war is to be continued, the institution of slavery will be destroyed If the States were all to move immediately the institution might yet be saved, or at least so much of it as yet remains. It can never be abolished by the United States government, except by an amendment to the Constitution, which requires the assent of three-fourths of the States. It must be apparent, therefore, that such an amendment might be prevented by speedy action on our part.

I, therefore, hope that the resolutions will be adopted, and that the committee will bring in a convention bill immediately. I see no hope for the country but in this measure. Without speedy action on the part of the States I believe that liberty, property and every thing else which we hold dear will be swept away, and that life itself will become insecure.

This is, in my opinion, the most important Legislature, by far, that ever assembled in North Carolina. Weightier responsibilities rest upon us than any of our predecessors. The destiny of the good old North State is in our hands. Let us, then, meet the awful crisis like patriots and statesmen. Let us rise to the magnitude of the occasion.—Let us be restrained by no false notions of honor. Let us remember, in the language of one of the greatest and best of English statesmen, that "the path of pride and punctilio is as tangled as it is serpentine, while the path of common sense is simple, plain and direct." Let us remember that, to her *eternal honor*, North Carolina was the last State that consented to this war, and that she was forced into it at *last* by circumstances over which she had no control; that she yielded only to "the inexorable logic of events," but that having at length joined the Confederacy, she has been the truest of the true to it, and that, therefore, it is with peculiar propriety that she could inaugurate measures leading to reconciliation and peace. If we will commence the work other States will fall into line immediately, and when they do assemble the end will be nigh. I have no confidence that peace will ever come except through the action of the States. Time and events will prove this to be so. Our constituents demand that some action should be taken which will result in something practical. Woe be to us if we disappoint them! Let us not forget that when we sacrifice human life for no attainable end beyond a mere *punctilio*, we invade the prerogatives of Almighty God. Let us remember, too, that our acts here will be placed on record, and will live in history subject to the calm criticism of future ages.

Mr. Speaker, I honestly and conscientiously entertain the sentiments and opinions which I have expressed, and a sense of the duty which I owe to my country, my constituents, myself and my God, has impelled me to give them utterance. If I had failed to do so, I should feel that I was untrue to my country, and the cause of liberty and humanity. I, therefore, determined that whatever might be the consequences to me personally—that come weal or come woe, come bastiles or come death, I would discharge my duty. I have done so, and I leave the consequences to God.

EXTORTION IN THE HIRE OF NEGROES.

What is said in the following article from the Montgomery *Appeal*, will apply to this locality and the whole country:

Having witnessed the extortion practised by the owners of slaves for hire in this section, we are pleased with some suggestions thrown out by the *Enquirer*, in connection with the same practice in Virginia Property owners of this class seem to forget that the stability of the system from which they profit so much depends upon the success of hard struggling and sorely pressed people. If the latter fall slavery becomes extinct inevitably, for its abolishment is the moving cause actuating our enemies. Yet those most interested are found among those least willing to make sacrifices for the common good.

Either the owners or their hiring agents are acting very much against common sense, by making such exorbitant demands for negro hire this year. One thousand dollars and board and clothing are asked by some for negro men Is not a system of labor that thus extorts upon the necessities of the hirer rather expensive, is a question that we have heard asked an alarming number of times since the hire of negroes were doubled. These men surely forget the state of the country, and do not consider the fact that an earnest people are now deliberately weighing the bearings and influences of negro slavery upon the prospects of liberty and independence. They surely forget that these exorbitant hires are actual obstructions to production, and as such are really aid and comfort to the enemy, and consequently acts hostile to our cause. The effort of the country is to reduce the cost and increase the quantity of production, in order that the currency may be improved and the cause sustained; but if the owners of negroes demand hires for their slaves which the farmer cannot pay and continue to cultivate his farm without increasing the price of his crops, they are acting exactly as the enemy would have them act, and they are jeopardizing the institution of slavery by making it an incubus upon production

An objection was raised to the conscription of negroes for the army because it would diminish the labor of the country, increase the cost of production, and thus cause a depreciation of the currency; but negro men, at one thousand dollars per annum, with food and clothing, is too expensive for farming purposes; and, therefore, they may be conscripted without any damage to production.

By their course owners are removing one objection to the scheme of employing the negroes as soldiers. They may go too far, however, and convince the opponents of the measure that negroes who are worth one thousand dollars a year in any capacity, would make good soldiers, and a more extended conscription than that recommended by President Davis. Congress might with propriety conscribe all such, for the price demanded for them is too high for the farm or any other producing pursuit. And this is all we want them for in this emergency.

Would it not be well for persons hiring negroes to have a proviso in the bond that if the negro is conscripted the hire is to cease? Otherwise a man may have a bond of one thousand dollars to pay, and yet the negro be sent to the army. We think it altogether likely.

Gen. D. H. Hill is impressing all able-bodied slaves between the age of 18 and 50 for the defence of Augusta.

DAILY PROGRESS.

RALEIGH, N. C.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 1, 1865.

WATCH FOR THE CROSS MARK.

To save our subscribers the trouble of making enquires by letter, we shall hereafter make a cross mark on the margin of the paper when the time paid for is about to expire, and if not promptly renewed the paper will be stopped. Watch for the cross mark and send on money to renew in time.

RATES FOR SUBSCRIPTION AND ADVERTISING.

The following are our only rates for subscription and advertising. Persons ordering the paper by mail should give the present office, county and State in full, and be particular to say whether the Daily or Weekly paper is wanted. Cash must accompany all orders for subscriptions and advertising:

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

Daily Progress, six months	$40 00
" " Three months	20 00
" " One month	10 00
Weekly Progress, three months	10 00
" " six months	20 00

ADVERTISING RATES:

All advertisements per square, of eight lines of solid minion type, or less, $5 00 for every insertion.

Are the members of the Legislature simply dallying with the people, or are they in earnest in their professions of a desire to have this hellish butchery terminated? They have sent Commissioners to Richmond, the action sending them being had in secret session, to confer with Mr. Davis on the subject of peace, and instead of waiting to receive the report they make on their return, some of them seem eager to adjourn at once. This would not only be a discourtesy to the Commissioners whom those legislators, in secret session, have sent on this peace mission, but it would be showing a thorough disregard for the wishes and prayers of the people who sent them here. All other subjects and all other business are now swallowed up in the desire for peace, and those members of the Legislature who vote to leave here before anything definite is known relative to the peace measures now pending, will deserve, and we hope will receive, the scorn and contempt of all honest men when they return to their homes.

Ordinarily we are in favor of short sessions, but now the life of a people depends on the action that may be taken, and we admonish the members of the present Legislature that if they leave here without action they are marked men. The game of deception and fraud that "patriots and property holders" have played upon the people for three years is about "played out," and if they would consult their own interest and their own safety, they had better heed the voice of the people for peace. This Legislature ought not to adjourn and must not adjourn until something is known of the peace measures now pending. And it should not adjourn under any circumstances without calling a Convention of the people.

Legislative Summary.

In the Senate a resolution to adjourn on Friday next to meet on the 2d Tuesday of May was discused, but not finally acted upon.

The resolutions in regard to *habeas corpus* come up to-day.

A considerable number of magistrates were appointed.

In the House Mr. McLean introduced resolutions to give bounties to soldiers. Resolutions against the policy of arming slaves passed by a large majority.

We have no space, time or disposition to enter into any controversy with any of the organs of the "patriots and property holders" We are not in the service of the State or Confederate authorities—we publish an independent newspaper for the benefit of the masses of the people, and we cannot beslime our columns by personal controversies that would only disgust all reflecting persons. In the great crisis that is upon us we have a duty to perform to the people of North Carolina, and we shall not shrink from it for fear of offending the "patriots and property holders" or the organs established by their joint labors and solicited contributions.

We lay before our readers, in this issue, the able speech of Mr. Hanes, of Davidson, delivered in the House of Commons of this State, on his resolutions, looking to a State Convention and a Convention of the Confederate States, for the purpose of inaugurating measures looking to peace. This speech fully sustains the high reputation Mr. Hanes has acquired as a writer and a statesman. We ask for it a careful reading.

Extra copies of the *Progress* containing this speech may be had if orders be handed in at once.

Mr. Davis, at the request of Congress, has appointed Friday the 10th of March as a day of public fasting, thanksgiving and humiliation, &c. We trust that the prayers of all pious people may ascend on that day in favor of the members of Congress, for we know of no class of men that need prayer more than they do.

The *Conservative* is requested to state that Judge Shipp has removed to Lincolnton, to which place all communications for him should be directed.

W. B. March, Senator from Rowan and Davie, is detained at home by illness. We learn that he is recovering, and will probably be able to be in his seat in a few days.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

SENATE.

TUESDAY, Jan. 31.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Atkinson.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.

Mr. Bryson, a bill to purchase cotton and cotton yarn for indigent families Referred to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Also a bill to make Sheriffs and Jailors responsible for the escape of Prisoners. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

3D READING.

A bill to repeal so much of Sec. 119, chap. 34 of Revised Code as relates to coroners and sheriffs. Passed.

BILLS, ETC., ON THEIR SECOND READINGS

A resolution in favor of the Principal Clerks of the two Houses. Passed.

A resolution in favor of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum. Passed.

A bill to prevent obstructions to the passage of fish up Newbegun creek. Passed.

A bill concerning roads Passed.

A bill to change the name of the "North Carolina Express Company" to the "People's Express Company."—Passed.

A bill concerning injunctions. Passed its several readings.

A resolution in favor of Messrs. Rogers and Calvert.—Passed.

A bill to prevent the sale of property under execution for specie. Amended and passed.

SPECIAL ORDER.

The special order, a bill to levy a tax in kind for the support of the families of soldiers, was taken up, the question being upon the substitute reported by the committee, which was amended and passed.

The resolutions in regard to the suspension of the *Habeas corpus* act, were made the special order for to-morrow at 12 o'clock.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A message from the House transmitting a list of names recommended for magistrates was concurred in.

Mr. Stubbs offered a resolution to send a proposition to the House to adjourn on Friday next to meet again on the second Tuesday in May. On a motion to refer to the committee on adjournment the ayes and noes were taken, with the following result—Ayes 17, Noes 19.

Various amendments to alter the time of meeting were voted down, and the further consideration of the resolution was postponed until to-morrow.

The Senate then adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

TUESDAY, Jan. 31.

The House was called to order at ten o'clock, A. M. Mr. Mann presiding.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Mr. Russ introduced a bill to increase the militia force of the State in cases of imminent danger. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Leave of absence was granted Mr. Johnson for the residue of the session.

A message was sent to the Senate proposing the appointment of additional Justices of the Peace.

ON CALENDER.

A bill to restore the penalty of $100 on Sheriffs for neglecting to execute or return process, was laid on the table. After a protracted discussion--Yeas 59, Nays 36.

Mr. McLean introduced the following resolution in favor of the Confederate soldiers and their families:

Resolved, That our Senators in Congress be instructed and our Representatives be requested to use their best efforts in procuring the enactment of a law which shall guarantee to every soldier of the Confederate Army, serving this war, and to the families of those who may have died or may die during its continuance, the sum of one thousand ($1000.) dollars in the bonds of the Confederate States of America, bearing interest at six per cent, and the same to be non-taxable.

Mr. Smith, of Johnson, moved to amend by substituting "a negro fellow" for each Confederate Bond. The resolution was referred, with the amendment, to the Committee on Confederate Relations.

The House proceeded to consider the resolution, (introduced by Mr. J. H. Headen,) proposing that the two Houses adjourn on Friday next until the first Monday in April.

The resolution was discussed at length, and finally referred to the joint committee on adjournment.

The following engrossed bills and resolutions had their first reading in the House, viz: A bill to revive and continue in force an act passed in 1863, entitled an act to amend chapter 36, Revised Code, entitled Currency; a bill for the relief of W. B. Campbell, Sheriff of Beaufort county, and a resolution in favor of A. H. Sanders, former Sheriff of Montgomery county.

Engrossed resolutions against the policy of arming slaves were read, and Mr. Waugh asked the yeas and nays on their passage.

Mr. Brown of Mecklenburg moved that the resolutions be laid on the table. The yeas and nays were ordered and the House refused to lay on the table.—yeas 24, nays 69.

Those who voted in the affirmative were Messrs. Baxter Boyd, Brown of Mecklenburg, Bryan, Caho, Carson, of Rutherford, Cobb, Costner, Crawford, of Rowan Crawford, of Wayne, Davis of Franklin, Farmer, Gaskins, George, Gidney, Grier, Harris Hawes, Lane, Reinhardt, Russ, Shipp, Stancell, Strong.

Those who voted in the negative were Messrs. Allison, Alford, Asheworth, Banks, Beam, Benbury, Best, Blair, Bond, of Bertie, Bond of Gates, Brown, of Madison, Caldwell, Carson, of Alexander, Clapp, Cowles, Craig, Cunningham, Dargan, Davis, of Halifax, Duke, Enloe, Erwin Faison, Faucette, Flynt, Fowle, Gibbs, Grissom, Gudger, Hadley, Hanes, Harrington, Harrison, Henry, Herbert, Holton, Horton, of Watauga, Horton, of Wilkes, Johnston, Jordan, Joyner, Judkins, Latham, Lewis, Little, Love, Mann, McAden, McCormick, McGehee, McLean, McMillan, Morisey, Murphy, Murrill, Patterson, Patton, Peace, Perkins, Phillips, Polk, Powell, Rogers, Russell, Sharpe, Shober, Simmons, Smith, of Cabarrus Smith of Duplin, Smith of Johnston, Stipe, Waugh, Young.

The resolutions were then adopted. Yeas 76, Nays 21.

Those who voted in the affirmative were Messrs. Allison, Alford, Ashworth, Banks, Bean, Benbury, Best, Blair, Bond of Bertie, Bond of Gates, Boyd, Brown of Madison, Bryan, Caldwell, Calloway, Carson of Alexander, Clapp, Cowles, Craig, Cunningham, Davis of Halifax, Enloe, Erwin, Faison, Faucette, Flynt, Fowle, Gibbs, Grissom, Gudger, Hadley, Hanes, Harrington, Harrison, J H Headen, Henry, Herbert, Holton, Horton of Watauga, Horton of Wilkes, Johnston, Jordan, Joyner, Judkins, Latham, Lewis, Little, Love, Lyle, Mann, McAden, McCormick, McGehee, McLean, McMillan, Morisey, Murphy, Murrill, Patterson, Patton, Peace, Perkins, Phillips, Polk, Rogers, Russell, Sharpe, Shober, Simmons, Smith of Cabarrus, Smith of Duplin, Smith of Johnston, Stipe, Strong, Waugh and Young

Those who voted in the negative were Messrs. Baxter, Brown of Mecklenburg, Caho, Carson of Rutherford, Cobb, Costner, Crawford of Rowan, Crawford of Wayne, Davis of Franklin, Farmer, Gaskins, George, Gidney, Grier, Harris, Hawes, Lane, Powell, Reinhardt, Russ and Stancill.

On motion of Mr. McGehee, a bill for the relief of the people, was taken from the table. Mr. McGehee then offered a substitute for the bill. The bill and amendments were subsequently recommitted to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Reinhardt (by leave) introduced a bill to appropriate a portion of the lands of the town of Newton to the goal of said town.

Mr. Phillips, a bill to provide for biennial reports from the Auditor of Public Accounts.

A resolution in favor of Wm. F. Wasson, sheriff of Iredell, reported from the committee on claims, passed its several readings under a suspension of the rules.

The House then adjourned untill ten o'clock to-morrow.

FALL OF SILVER.—Silver bullion warrented pure—sold at auction here yesterday at $15,50 per ounce, which is only $15,50 per dollar. Why cannot provisions be brought down to the specie standard? They went up with it; let them come down with it.

P. S. After the above was written we learn that gold coin sold at 34½ at auction. Let other things "tumble" in proportion.

The pressure upon our columns this morning would justify the Local in saying he was crowded out, but he makes no excuse, simply announcing that he is still in "secret session."

We received Augusta and other Georgia papers, by yesterday's mail, up to the 28th, but they make no mention of Sherman's movements. We received no papers from Charleston.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

[REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.]

Later from the North.

RICHMOND, Jan. 30.—Northern papers of the 24th and 25th received.

The main building of the Smithsonian Institute at Washington was destroyed by fire on Tuesday evening. Numerous valuable paintings and documents were consumed. The Museum and Library were saved. The fire was accidental.

A San Francisco telegram, 23d, announces the arrival there of Capt. Beauregard, brother of General Beauregard, in the capacity of private Secretary to Ex-Senator Gwynn. He reports that Gwynn has been created Duke by Maximillian and appointed Viceroy over five States, ceded to France in payment for troops furnished by the French Government. The story is not believed further than that Gwynn has obtained certain land grants and has been authorized to encourage emigration from the Confederate States.

The steamship Atlantic from Mobile Bay, with 1,000 bales of cotton from the rebel government, arrived at New York on the 24th.

Gen. Dix has suppressed the publication of rebel 'Personals' in the New York "Daily News."

A Washington telegram says the entire subject of the exchange of prisoners is now in the hands of Gen. Grant, and there is reason to believe that a full exchange will soon be effected.

Sumner and Wilson both opposed the measures of retaliation proposed in Congress.

The report that the English Government had ordered thirty gunboats to the Lakes is pronounced a *canard*.

Gold unchanged.

Congressional.

RICHMOND, Jan. 30.—Nothing important done in Senate in open session to-day.

In the House Mr. DeJarnette submitted the following, which he supported in an able and elaborate speech:

WHEREAS, all nations have ever witnessed with alarm the establishment of any formidable power in their vicinity; and whereas, the people of the Confederate States, as well as the people of the United States, have ever cherished and resolved that any further acquisition of territory in North America by any foreign power would be inconsistent with their prosperity and development; and whereas, the invasion of Mexico by France has resulted, as alleged, in the establishment of a government founded in the consent of the governed, nevertheless we have reason to believe that ulterior designs are entertained against California and the other Pacific States, which we do not regard as parties to the war now waged against us, as they have neither furnished men nor money for its prosecution: Therefore the Congress of the Confederate States do

Resolve, That the time may not be distant when we will be prepared to unite, on the basis of the independence of the Confederate States, with those most interested in vindication of the principles of the Monroe Doctrine, to the exclusion of all seeming violations of those principles on the continent of North America. Referred to Committee on Foreign Affairs.

From Petersburg.

PETERSBURG, Jan 31.—The Peace Commissioners are still here. Applications to pass through the enemy's lines were made yesterday and to day at late hour. This afternoon an answer was returned, the purport of which has not been promulgated. The final movement of the Commissioners will probably be determined to-morrow. In consequence of pending communications a general truce was observed on the lines to-day.

From Richmond.

RICHMOND, Jan. 27.—Gen. Lee's nomination as General in-Chief was prepared last week at the War Department by order of the President. The delay in sending it to the Senate arises from the President's inability to sign his name, in consequence of a severe attack of neuralgia in his right arm and hand. The President is still confined to his room this morning and may not be able for some days to recover the use of his hand.

It is stated that the Commissioners in passing through our lines, were greeted with vociferous cheers by the troops, and that similar demonstrations were made by the Yankees on their arrival within the Yankee lines.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY.

FOR 2 OR 3 MONTHS OR FOR THE BALANCE OF the year a servant girl. Apply to JAMES D. HOLLISTER or to E. E. HARRIS, Hargett Street. The best price will be paid. Feb 1-1t*

GRINDSTONES! GRINDSTONES!

WE KEEP CONSTANTLY ON HAND FOR SALE a good assortment of superior DEEP RIVER GRINDSTONES, weighing from 60 to 600 pounds.
SHAY, WILLIAMSON & CO.,
Jan 27-6t* North State Iron and Brass Works.
**Confederate and Conservative copy 6 times.

PATTERN MAKERS WANTED.

WE WISH TO EMPLOY ONE OR TWO FIRST class pattern makers Apply at once to
SHAY, WILLIAMSON & CO.,
Jan 27 6t* North State Iron and Brass Works.
**Confederate and Conservative copy 6 times.

IRON! IRON!! IRON!!!

WE KEEP CONSTANTLY ON HAND ALL KINDS Plantation and Farmer's Iron, Shovel Iron, Nail Rods, Band Iron, Heavy Sheet Iron for making Hoops, Spades, &c. SHAY, WILLIAMSON, & Co.,
Jan 27-6t* North State Iron and Brass Works.
**Confederate and Conservative copy 6 times

CAST STEEL AXES.

WE HAVE FOR SALE SIX OR EIGHT DOZEN (5 and 6 pounds) best steel axes.
SHAY, WILLIAMSON & CO.,
Jan 27-6t* North State Iron and Brass Works.
**Confederate and Conservative copy 6 times.

To Carpenters or others Wishing to BUILD.

A Rare Chance!

THE ADVERTISER OFFERS FOR SALE THE frame work, all morticed and ready to put together, of a

LARGE HOUSE,

46 x 56 feet, cottage style, 8 rooms with basement; Together with
16 pair Blinds—primed;
17 Door Shutters and frames;
14 Large window frames, with rolers.
7 Window frames—swithout rolers.
14 Sett Sash—Glazed—Glass, 10 x 16.
6 Frontispieces for fire places.

This work was done and the material prepared for a large, fine building, and nothing but flooring, weather boarding, shingles and lathes and lime are wanting to finish it—all the rest being on the ground.

The property may be seen, with a drawing of the building, and terms ascertained by calling on or addressing
Jan 12-tf EDITOR PROGRESS.

$2,000 REWARD.

LOST OR TAKEN BY MISTAKE, A BOX MARKED "Maj. S. V. Reid, Wilmington." Any information in regard to it, which will enable us to recover it, or any one leaving it at the Express office will receive the above reward, and no questions asked.
A. P. C. BRYAN,
Jan. 18-dtf Agent So. Express Company.

Card Notice.

THERE IS NOW ANOTHER LOT OF COTTON AND Wool Cards (ready for use) for distribution to Soldiers' families, at $10 per pair. Agents will please call for them. H. A. DOWD, A. Q. M. N. C.
Dec. 30-d&w6t